



# FACT SHEET

## Hunters Point Naval Shipyard

### Radiological Data Review

This is the first in a series of fact sheets and other ongoing communications about radiological data review being conducted at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS). This fact sheet provides background on radiological soil sampling issues at HPNS that are currently under review; summarizes actions taken since the issue was discovered; provides a plan for development and implementation of future data evaluation objectives; and discusses how the Navy will communicate the results of future testing to the public.

## Background on Radiological Data Review at HPNS

The Navy is reviewing radiological data that was collected during cleanup at HPNS. A plan is underway to resolve any data in question. To protect public health and the environment, the Navy is continuing with cleanup at HPNS according to federal guidance while continuing its investigations into the sampling issue. The Navy, State and Federal agencies, and public stakeholders will continue to be included in the review of the results of any cleanup actions.

## Concerns About Contractor Samples

The Navy's oversight of contractors conducting cleanup work at HPNS revealed that Tetra Tech EC, a Navy contractor, had misrepresented radiological soil samples in 2012. Tetra Tech EC claimed that the soil samples had been taken after cleanup at HPNS, when they were in fact from an area known not to have been affected by Navy activities.

Upon the discovery of the misrepresented samples, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), agencies that manage Tetra Tech EC's radiological licenses, were notified. An internal investigation was initiated; new data was collected with strict oversight from areas in question; and corrective actions were taken, including the requirement for additional cleanup.

### Comprehensive Sample Review (2012)

- ✓ More than 70,000 sample results were reviewed
- ✓ Building and land areas were resampled
- ✓ Additional soil excavations were completed to clean up areas where misrepresented samples were taken
- ✓ New radiological surveys were performed with on-site independent supervision

In response to the discovery of the misrepresented sampling data by Tetra Tech EC, the Navy initiated a comprehensive review of radiological data from soil samples collected by the contractor.

After the new sampling and cleanup work was complete, independent analysis of the final data confirmed that radiological contamination had, in fact, been cleaned up properly (see *box to the left*).

In 2016, former workers at HPNS made new claims about Tetra Tech EC activities, including the following:

- Potentially contaminated soil samples were swapped for clean soil samples;
- Potentially contaminated soil was placed into open trenches in other areas around HPNS;
- Misrepresented data reports were prepared and submitted to the government; and
- Computer data regarding radiation levels was tampered with to indicate lower levels of radiation.

In addition to the comprehensive data review, these claims are being thoroughly investigated by the Navy and results will be made available to the public when the investigation is complete.

Other oversight agencies reviewing the Navy's efforts include the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

The integrity of environmental data is critical to ensure that the cleanup at HPNS is completed successfully and that any contaminants remaining after cleanup is complete do not pose a threat to human health or the environment.

## Team of Technical Experts

The Navy has assembled a team of technical experts with extensive knowledge and experience to further evaluate the reliability of the radiological data. These technical experts include representatives from the Navy, U.S. EPA, DTSC, CDPH, and the City of San Francisco.

In addition, a team of nationally recognized experts have been contracted to support the Navy's technical team with the radiological data evaluation and confirmation investigation. The contract team includes industry experts with extensive experience and expertise in health physics (radioactivity), environmental sampling, analysis of radiological samples, measurement of radioactivity, and statistical analysis of environmental data. Careful selection of contract team members was made to ensure that no individuals who worked for Tetra Tech EC at HPNS were involved in any current data review.

## Next Steps

### Data Evaluation Objectives and Approach

The next step is to evaluate the existing radiological data and identify potential areas of concern. Once potential areas of concern have been identified, multiple types of evidence will be collected to determine if radioactive levels at HPNS are, in fact, within regulatory limits. To ensure accuracy of the data review, soil evaluation will be divided into two phases (see *graphic to the right*).

To supplement and cross-check statistical analyses, other sources of evidence will be evaluated, including evaluation of other types of data (for instance, building survey data); focused evaluation in areas where health concerns were greatest prior to cleanup activities; and evaluation of field documentation to identify or confirm any questionable records.

### Where Can I See the Results from the Radiological Investigations at HPNS?

Results of both phases of the data evaluation and confirmation sampling will be documented in a detailed confirmation report. The report will be available to the public at the two locations listed below, under *Review an HPNS Report*.

#### Phases of Radiological Data Analysis

##### Phase 1

##### Gather Existing Data and Identify Potential Areas of Concern

- ✓ **Develop** database of available soil data
- ✓ **Confirm** accuracy of radiological data
- ✓ **Identify** questionable results which require further analysis
- ✓ **Identify** gaps in data for Phase II evaluation

##### Phase 2

##### Determine Priority Areas for New Field Sampling and Conduct Sampling

- ✓ **Analyze** questionable data identified in Phase I
- ✓ **Identify** additional requirements to determine where new samples may need to be taken
- ✓ **Design** sampling plan and conduct sampling
- ✓ **Analyze** new data and compare to results from existing data analyses

In addition, the Navy will continue to update the community on results and achievements in upcoming news releases, fact sheets, website updates, and community meetings. Historical reports and documentation may be found on the U.S. EPA's website at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov), on DTSC's website at [www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov), and on the Navy's website at [www.bracpmo.navy.mil](http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil).

### Protecting the Public

The Navy's priority is community safety during investigation and cleanup at HPNS. Daily air monitoring is conducted both upwind and downwind of radiological cleanup sites; weekly perimeter scans of active radiological worksites are conducted; and groundwater is sampled regularly at radiological sites. In addition, the Navy has hired an independent contractor to ensure on-site radiological work is performed in accordance with approved work plans. Investigations show that people who live, work, and visit HPNS and adjacent properties are safe. The Navy is committed to engaging the community and keeping the public informed about the cleanup process at HPNS and strongly encourages interested community members to participate. HPNS parcels will only be transferred from the Navy to Office of Community Investment and Infrastructure (Formerly the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency) after all necessary cleanup actions are taken to protect human health and the environment.

### Contact HPNS Program Management

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To be added to the HPNS mailing list or for additional information, email [info@sfhpn.com](mailto:info@sfhpn.com) or call (415) 295-4742.

### Review an HPNS Report

**City of San Francisco Main Library**  
100 Larkin Street, 5th Floor, Gov't Information Center  
San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 557-4400  
**Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Site Trailer**  
690 Hudson Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94124

**Navy Website:** [www.bracpmo.navy.mil](http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil)

### Get Answers on Radiological Health and Safety from a Technical Expert

**Dr. Kathryn Higley**  
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*Dr. Higley is highly qualified to serve as a resource to the public on HPNS radiological issues. She is the Head of the School of Nuclear Science and Engineering at Oregon State University. She is a Certified Health Physicist with a Ph.D. and M.S. in Radiological Health Sciences. Dr. Higley is available to answer community member questions by phone or email.*

有关海军在猎人角海军造船厂的清理活动方案的更多信息，请拨打 (415) 295-4742并留言。

Para más información sobre el programa de limpieza de la Marina en Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, favor de dejar un mensaje en (415) 295-4742.

Para sa higit pang impormasyon sa programa sa paglilinis ng Navy sa Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, mangyaring mag-iwan ng mensahe sa (415) 295-4742.

Mo nisi faamatalaga e uiga i le polokalame faamama a le Navy i Hunter's Point, faamolemole tuu mai se feau i le telefoni (415) 295-4742.